

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 BIB-01

(ISO) W

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R 041502Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0363

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 2234

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CS

SUBJECT: ICT PROTEST OF NBC'S "WEEKEND"

1. LA NACION ON JUNE 2 PUBLISHED A LETTER FROM CARLOS LARA HINE, PRESIDENT OF THE COSTA RICAN TOURIST INSTITUTE (ICT) TO RODOLFO SILVA, COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, IN WHICH LARA EXPRESSED HIS DISCONTENT OVER THE SEGMENT ABOUT COSTA RICA SHOWN ON NBC'S "WEEKEND" ON MARCH 15.

2. IN THE LETTER LARA REQUESTED FURTHER INFORMATION FROM AMBASSADOR SILVA ON WHY "NBC DEVOTED 20 MINUTES ON NATIONWIDE TV TO DISCREDIT A FRIENDLY NATION," "WHAT IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S OPINION OF THIS ANOMALY," AND "WHAT INTERESTS WERE BEHIND THIS WORK OF DEFAMATION WHICH OBVIOUSLY WAS SO COSTLY." HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT SILVA INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF GETTING TIME ON "WEEKEND" TO "VINDICATE" COSTA RICA.

3. FINALLY LARA STRESSED THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT BOTH NBC AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT KNOW THAT COSTA RICAN LAW AND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION PROHIBIT THE DIFUSSION OF "TOURIST PROPAGANDA" ABOUT ONE NATION BY ANOTHER NATION. LARA SEEMED TO BE IMPLYING IN HIS STATEMENT THAT THE NBC DOCUMENTARY COMES UNDER THE CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

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OF TOURIST INFORMATION RATHER THAN NEWS.

4. EMBASSY WILL REPLY TO ANY INQUIRIES THAT THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS NO CONTROL OVER PRIVATE BROADCASTING
ENTERPRISES.
LANE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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